

On March 20 the Eighty-first Division was reviewed at Chatillon-Sur-Seine by General Pershing and the King and Queen of Belgium. Also on April 10 the Division was inspected by General Pershing, after which he made a speech that gladdened many a despairing heart by advancing the information that the Division was booked for an early return home.

HOMeward JOURNEY

From then on there existed a satisfying spirit, and on May 12 each one slung his pack and marched joyfully to Chatillon-Sur-Seine, the first lap of the homeward journey. Entrained at 11 a. m. in spacious American boxcars drawn by U. S. A. locomotive and traveled by the way of Tonnere, Clamency and Bourges into the Le Mans area. May 13, 3:30 p. m., found the Company hiking on a fifteen-kilometre journey from Beaumont to Marolles-les-Braults, arriving at 7 p. m. Here drill, inspections, ball games, shows and entertainments and preparations for embarkation consumed the time. Before leaving for port three officers and fifteen men were assigned to "K" Company for transportation home.

May 30, at 2 p. m., the Third Battalion loaded on trucks and was carried eighteen kilometres to the rail-head La Hutte (Sarthe). While here the boys were served lemonade, chocolates, candies, smokables, chewing gum and other dainties by the Y. M. C. A., K. of C. and J. W. B. Entrained at 9:30 p. m. in American boxcars and at 10 a. m. the following morning detrained at St. Nazaire, France. Hiked six kilometres to American embarkation camp No. 2, overlooking the Loire River. Here and at camp No. 1 a week was spent waiting for transportation overseas.